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**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 09/773,664

Filing Date: February 2, 2001

First Named Inventor: Takatoshi YAMASHITA

Group Art Unit: 2881

Examiner: M. El-Shammaa

Attorney Docket Number: 03327.2252

Attorney Customer Number: 22,852

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:

a. Previously submitted

- Consider the reply after final under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on July 28, 2003.
- Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief of Reply Brief previously filed on [Date].
- Other _____

b. Enclosed:

- Amendment/Reply
- Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- Information Disclosure Statement
- Other _____

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2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of [number] months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)

b. Other _____

3. Fees

a. The filing fee is calculated as follows:

- \$750.00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- Petition for extension of time for (one Months) \$110.00
- Other _____

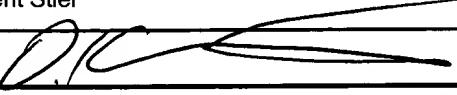
b. Check in the amount of \$860.00 enclosed.

c. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required

Name: D. Kent Stier

Reg. No.: 50,640

Signature: 

Date: September 8, 2003

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, MAIL STOP RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: [Date]

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